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means for sequentially displaying a plurality of television programs in an order corresponding to the user determined channel listing order.

REMARKS

The above identified patent application has been amended and reconsideration and reexamination are hereby requested.

Claims 51-81 are now in the application. Claims 51-60 have been rejected. Claims 51-55 and 57-60 have been amended. The new claims and amendments are fully supported and no new matter has been added to the application. The amendments are made to clarify the claims to make clear what is considered to be inherent in the unamended claims and not to further distinguish the claims over the cited references. In some cases, the amendments broaden the scope of the claims.

The Examiner objected to the Declaration since the priority claim to Patent Application No. 07/428,620 has been removed through preliminary amendment. Applicants respectfully submit that the Declaration is valid despite the changes made by the preliminary amendment. A copy of the oath or declaration from a prior nonprovisional application may be filed in a continuation or divisional application even if the specification for the continuation or division application is different from that of the prior application so long as any changes do not constitute new matter. M.P.E.P. §602.05(a). Also, the copy of the declaration filed in Application Serial No. 08/079,502 meets all of the requirements of 37 C.F.R. §1.63. Furthermore, the statement of priority in the Declaration has no actual effect on of the priority of the Application. 37 C.F.R. §1.78(a)(2)(iii). Accordingly, Applicants respectfully request that the objection be withdrawn.

The Examiner has rejected Claims 51 and 55-56 under 35 U.S.C. §102(b) as being anticipated by Strubbe et al. (U.S. Patent No. 5,047,867). The Examiner has rejected Claims 52-54 under 35 U.S.C.

§103(a) as being unpatentable over Strubbe in view of Anderson et al (U.S. Patent No. 5,416,895). The Examiner has rejected claims 57-58 and 60 under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as being unpatentable over Strubbe in view of Kawasaki (U.S. Patent No. 5,323,234). Applicants respectfully traverse the rejections.

The Applicants' Claim 51 has been amended to call for a method of navigating a data base of television program listings, the method comprising storing in electronic memory a channel listing and television program listings for a plurality of channels, displaying the channel listing on a monitor screen. . . , and arranging the plurality of channels in the channel listings in a user determined order. The amendments are made to clarify the claim to make clear what is considered to be inherent in the unamended claims and not to further distinguish over the cited references. In some cases, the amendments broaden the scope of the claims.

The Applicants submit that the invention as claimed in Claim 51 is not anticipated by Strubbe under 35 U.S.C. §102(b).

Strubbe provides for an interface for a TV-VCR system. The system includes a receiver for receiving television signal and user input to enable user control. While Strubbe is generally related to the field of interactive television systems, Strubbe fails to disclose the elements of Applicants' claim 51. Referring specifically to the section cited by the Examiner, FIG. 6a and the corresponding sections of the specification discloses a "favorite broadcast programs" screen including a selection of favorite programs. As indicated by the Examiner, the programs are listed alphabetically according to program name. Accordingly, Strubbe discloses a list of favorite program names and does not disclose displaying a channel listing on a monitor screen. Additionally, Strubbe provides a default alphabetic ordering and fails to disclose arranging the channels in the channel listing in a user determined order.

Accordingly, Applicants submit that the invention as claimed in Claim 51 is not anticipated by Strubbe under 35 U.S.C. §102(b).

The Applicants' Claim 57 has been amended to call for an electronic program guide . . . wherein the plurality of channels in the channel listing are arranged in a user determined order.

The Applicants submit that the invention as claimed in Claim 57 is neither taught, described or suggested in Strubbe, even in view of Kawasaki.

As discussed above, Strubbe fails to disclose a channel listing wherein the plurality of channels in the channel listing are arranged in a user determined order. Furthermore, there is no suggestion or motivation to combine the Strubbe and Kawasaki references. However, any combination of Strubbe and Kawasaki fails to disclose the presently claimed invention.

Kawasaki is directed to a programmable CATV system that permits the time reservation of certain programs to allow viewing or recording. Kawasaki fails to teach, disclose or suggest a channel listing wherein the plurality of channels are arranged in a user determined order. Accordingly, the Applicants submit that Claim 57 is not unpatentable over Strubbe in view of Kawasaki.

The Examiner rejected dependent Claims 52-54 under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as being unpatentable over Strubbe in view of Anderson. These claims are dependent on claim 51, which is believed to be allowable over the cited prior art. It is believed that claims 52-54 are allowable being dependent on an allowable base claim. Accordingly, remarks addressing the Examiners remarks relating to claims 52-54 are not believed to be necessary.

New independent claims 65, 72, 80, and 81 contain limitations similar to those in claims 51 and 57 and are allowable for the reasons given above.

Claims 52-56, 58-64, 66-71, and 73-79 are allowable as being dependent upon allowable base Claims 51, 57, 65, and 72.

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Accordingly, in view of the above amendments and remarks, it is submitted that the claims are patentably distinct over the prior art and that all the rejections to the claims have been overcome. Reconsideration and reexamination of the above Application is requested.

Attached hereto is a marked-up version of the changes made to the specification and claims by the current amendment. The attached page is captioned "Version with markings to show changes made."

Respectfully submitted,

CHRISTIE, PARKER & HALE, LLP

By 

James M. Collison

Reg. No. 50,517

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VERSION WITH MARKINGS TO SHOW CHANGES MADE

In the Claims:

51. (Amended) A method of navigating ~~[about]~~ a data base of television program listings, the method comprising the steps of:

storing in electronic memory a channel listing and television program listings for a plurality of channels ~~[in a channel listing]~~ , the channel listing having indicators for at least some of the plurality of channels;

displaying the indicators for the channel listing on a monitor screen ~~[some of the television program listings in a guide format of time and channel]; and~~

arranging the ~~[plurality of channels in]~~ indicators for the channel ~~[listings]~~ listing in a ~~[preferred]~~ user determined order ~~[to match viewer interest]~~.

52. (Amended) The method according to claim 51 wherein the arranging step comprises:

displaying the plurality of channels in a first order on the monitor screen;

~~[moving a cursor on the monitor screen to]~~ selectively ~~[highlight]~~ highlighting one of the plurality of channels ~~[whose order is to be changed]; and~~

reordering the plurality channels in the channel listing ~~[using the cursor,]~~ by moving the highlighted one of the plurality of channels from a first location to a second location in the channel listing.

53. (Amended) The method according to claim 52 wherein the reordering step comprises dragging the ~~[cursor and]~~ highlighted one of the plurality of channels to the second location using a cursor.

54. (Amended) The method according to claim 52 wherein the reordering step comprises selecting [~~, with the cursor,~~] a second location for the highlighted one of the plurality of channels, and transferring the highlighted one of the plurality of channels from a first location to the second location in the channel listing.

55. (Amended) The method according to claim 51 wherein the arranging step comprises:

displaying each of the plurality of channels in the channel listing [~~over time~~] in a [~~default~~] sequence; and

selecting a priority in the channel listing for each of the plurality of channels as it is displayed.

57. (Amended) An electronic program guide comprising:

a time and channel listing guide having a plurality of cells [~~in which~~] wherein television program listings for a plurality of channels in a channel listing are displayed,

wherein the plurality of channels in the channel listing [~~of the guide~~] are arranged [~~by a viewer~~] in a [~~preferred~~] user determined order.

58. (Amended) The electronic program guide according to claim 57 further comprising means for arranging the plurality of channels in the channel listing [~~of the guide~~] in [~~a preferred~~] the user determined order.

59. (Amended) The electronic program guide according to claim 58 wherein the arranging means comprises a movable cursor displayed on the guide to selectively highlight one of the plurality of channels [~~whose order is to be changed~~], wherein the highlighted one of the plurality of channels is moved from a first location to a second location in the channel listing.

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60. (Amended) The electronic program guide according to claim 58 wherein the arranging means comprises means for displaying each of the plurality of channels in the channel listing [~~over-time~~] in a [~~default~~] sequence and means for selecting a priority in the channel listing for each of the plurality of channels as it is displayed.

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